

## The Alexandria Gazette

THURSDAY EVEN'G, JANUARY 8.

## MESSAGE OF GOV. SEYMOUR TO THE NEW YORK LEGISLATURE.

Speaking of the national affairs, he says, not only is our national life at stake, but every personal, every family and every sacred duty and interest is involved. The truths of our financial and military situation must not be kept back. There must be no attempt to put down the free expression of public opinion.

Affrighted at the ruin they have wrought, the authors of our calamities in the North and South insist that this war was caused by an unavoidable contest about slavery. This has been the subject, not the cause of the controversy. We are to look for the causes of the war in the prevailing disregard of the obligations of the laws, the constitution, in the disrespect for constituted authority, and above all in the local prejudices which have grown up in the two portions of the Atlantic States, the two extremes of our country.

There is no honest statement of our difficulties which does not teach that our people must reform themselves as well as the conduct of the Government and the policy of our rulers. It is not too late to save our country, if we will enter upon the duty in the right spirit and in the right way.

When it is the right of our Government to decide upon measures and policy, it is our duty to obey and give a ready support to their decisions. This is a vital maxim of liberty.—This war should have been averted, but its floodgates were opened and the Administration could not grasp its dimensions nor control its sweep. The Government was borne away with the current, and struggled as best it could with the resistless tide. Few seemed able to comprehend the military or financial problem.

Since we are not bent on harsh judgment upon the errors in the conduct of their policy, but while we are to concede all these excuses for mistakes, we are not to adopt errors nor sanction violations of principles. The same causes which estimate their faults in judgment, must make us the more vigilant to guard against their influences.

The Governor urges economy and integrity in the administration of affairs, as these are vital in periods of war. He also says that meddling and intrigues have thwarted and paralyzed the vigor of our soldiers and the skill of their Generals within the influence of the national capitol, while our armies gained victories in the field remote therefrom.

The Governor says the national constitution must be held inviolate, and holds that the rights of the States must be respected as not the less sacred. A consolidated government would destroy the essential home rights and liberties of the people.

On the subject of arbitrary arrests he says:—The suppression of journals and the imprisonment of persons are glaringly partizan. Conscious of these gross abuses, an attempt has been made to shield the violators of law and suppress inquiry into their routines and conduct. This attempt will fail. Unconstitutional acts will not be shielded by constitutional laws.

I shall not inquire what right States in rebellion have forfeited, but I deny that rebellion can suspend a single right of the citizens of a loyal State. I denounce the doctrine that

civil war in the South takes away from the loyal North the benefits of one particle of civil liberty.

It is a high crime to abduct citizens of this State. It is made my duty by the Constitution to see that the laws are enforced, and I shall investigate every alleged violation of our statutes, and see that the offenders are brought to justice. Sheriffs and District Attorneys are admonished that it is their duty to take care that no person in their respective counties are imprisoned or carried by force beyond their limits, without due process of legal authority.

The Governor at some length condemns the exercise of power under martial law as destructive of the rights of States and of legislation, and of the judicial departments of the General Government. He declares the President's emancipation proclamation as impolitic, unjust and unconstitutional, and calculated to create many barriers to the restoration of the Union; and that it will be misconstrued by the world as an abandonment of hope to restore it—a result to which New York was unalterably opposed, and which will be effectually resisted.

The Union, he says, will be restored by the central and Western States to the free and slave States who are exempt from the violent passions which control at the extremes. Those of the central slave States which rejected the ordinance of secession, and which were driven off by a contemptuous compromising policy, must be brought back. The restoration of the whole Union will only be the work of time, with such exertion as can be put forth, without needlessly sacrificing the life and treasure of the North in a bloody and calamitous contest.

We must not wear out the lives of our soldiers nor exhaust the earnings of labor by a war for uncertain ends or to carry out vague theories of extermination—this means not only destruction of lives and property South, but also a waste of blood and treasure in the North.

The execution of armed power must be accompanied by a firm and conciliatory policy, so as to restore our Union with the least possible injury to both sections.

The Governor concludes as follows:

"At this moment the fortunes of our country are influenced by the results of battles.—Our armies in the field must be supported.—All the constitutional demands of our general Government must be promptly responded to.

"Under no circumstances can a division of the Union be conceded. We will put forth every exertion of power; we will use every policy of conciliation; we will hold out every inducement to the people of the South to return to their allegiance consistent with honor.

"We will guarantee them every right and every consideration demanded by the Constitution alone, and by that fraternal regard which must prevail in a common country; but we can never voluntarily consent to the breaking up of the Union of these States, or the destruction of the Constitution."

During the absence of the family, last night, from the residence of Mr. C. F. Lee, (upper end of Washington street,) a panel of the front door was knocked out, by some parties who were frightened off without stealing anything, as was evidently their intention.

To-day, the 8th of January, is the anniversary of the battle of New Orleans.

During the quarter ending 31st December, there was inspected by the inspector for Washington, 10,011 bbls. of flour—3740 family, 4,348 extra, 1,711 superfine, and 204 fine.

**LOST.—\$10 REWARD.**—On Wednesday afternoon, Jan. 7th, a small portable CAMP DESK, made of white pine wood. It was placed in the hands of a colored man to carry from the steamboat landing, who missed the owner of the desk on King street, near the Marshall House. If the colored man who had it in charge, or any other person, will send the desk (which contain papers of no value to any person but the owner) to the store of Green & Co., No. 99 King street, they will receive the above reward.  
Jan 8—It\*

## SAILING OF THE STEAMER NEW YORK FOR THE SOUTH.

[From the Washington Chronicle.]

The flag of truce boat "New York," sailed to-day about twelve and half o'clock. The wharf at the foot of Sixth street was crowded with people—most of them Confederate sympathizers. In fact there is scarcely a family in this city that had not a representative present. This we were careful to observe. Those on the vessel as well as most of those on shore seemed to be in the highest glee, and various salutations, such as waving of the handkerchiefs, kissing of the hands, &c., were constantly being exchanged between them. About quarter of 12, upwards of 339 women, 225 children, 10 servants and 5 school boys were on board. From conversation with a number of the passengers, we learned that the object of most of them in going South was the hope and expectation of finding in that "sunny region," a more congenial spot, where they could give vent to their pent up feelings, and actively co-operate with and for their friends.

We found many again who expressed themselves as true and earnest devotees of the Union, and who stated that their only purpose in visiting the South, was to endeavor to ascertain the condition and whereabouts of certain relatives and friends who were near and dear to them.

The balance were school girls and boys returning home. The most of these we found earnestly endorsed the rebellion, and many said their intention on arriving was to actively assist the Confederate government. We, however, found some exceptions.

A number of those whom we observed on the boat, are well known to our citizens, as having for a long time been fully identified, both in word and deed, with the so-called Southern Confederacy.

Detective Baker was present with his force and kept a close watch upon things generally. He seized, it is said, a large quantity of quinine, and other contraband articles, which certain persons attempted to smuggle through.

As the vessel left her moorings, and moved quietly down the river, the enthusiasm on both sides was unbounded. Cheer after cheer went up, handkerchiefs were waved, hats thrown up, and various other manifestations of joy made.

## FROM FAIRFAX COURT HOUSE.

FAIRFAX C. H., Jan 6, p. m.—Two of our (Union) pickets—amounting in all to sixteen men—were gobbled up last night by the Confederates. It is clear that more cavalry is required than are now on duty in our front.—The lack of it renders it impossible, it seems, to prevent such surprises on the extreme front whenever the enemy take a fancy to undertake such enterprises. Col. d'Utassy now commands in the front, in the direction of Manassas.

**COUNTY COURT.**—The cases of Johnson vs. Phillips; Lowe vs. Burns & Connor; Johnston vs. Marks; Graham vs. Gallaher, all for unlawful detainer of property, have been tried this term, and verdicts rendered for the plaintiffs. John Bell (free negro) was sentenced to three months imprisonment, for burglariously entering a house. To-day, the Court has been occupied in the trial of civil causes, mostly for unlawful detainer. The case of Lewis McKenzie vs. John B. Daingerfield—a suit for slander—was postponed until the April term of the Court.

Gen. Hanson, announced as killed in Gen. Rosecrans's dispatch, is a native of this vicinity, and has many relatives in Washington.